

ZEKE BILKINS, M. A.



The Major Sees Visions and Dreams
Frightful Dreams—Zeke is not Willing
to be Captured.

B.—"Hello! Mr. Editor."

R.—"Hello! Major. Are you enjoy-
ing life to day?"

B.—Not as much as I would like.
Seems like my troubles will never end.
With the Spanish on one side a threat-
in' ter gobble us awl, up an' Chairman
Butler on the other side ready ter cap-
ture the dear old dymakrat party lock,
stock an' barrel, life haint hardly
wurth livin'.

I reckon nothin' but
death will relieve me or awl these
cruel sites an' the gallin' chains ov
mattermoney. I lay awake the other
nite lamentin' erbout Butler capturin'
us all till after midnite an' then went
asleep an' dreamed the awfulest dream
you ever heard ov. I thought I saw
awl the grand men belongin' ter the
great Dymakrat party gathered ter-
gether on a grate plain, which wuz az
level as a floor fer miles an' miles.

Chairman Butler wuz sittin' on a great
throne built ov silver an' he had a
crown upon his head. In his hand he
wuz holdin' five million little ropes an'
they were each tied erround the neck
ov a dymakrat. I had one erround my
neck, too. Ex President Cleveland
wuz sittin' on one side fannin' Butler
an' Chairman Jones wuz mixin' a lem-
onade fer Butler. The sun wuz bilin'
hot. Every man had a silver pitcher
in his hand, an' awl were cryin', "Give
us water! give us food! give us cloth-
ing." But Butler only smiled. I got
so blamed hungry an' thirsty I
couldn't hardly see. I went up ter
Butler an' Jones an' axed 'em whut
awl this meant. They said, "Why
Zeke, don't you see this silver throne
an' don't you see that every man has a
silver pitcher in his hand. We are the
new silver party." Then I began ter
see a thing or two. I noticed that a
silver throne fer Butler ter sit on an'
a few silver pitchers didn't fill the bill.

The people were awl, wantin' shelter,
food an' clothing, an' it struck me
more forcibly than ever that a silver
party wuz very incomplete and that it
would take a gude many things beside
silver ter make the people prosperous
an' happy. Then I saw another vision.

I looked over behind us an' saw a big
hill covered with shade trees an' there
wuz plenty ov cold springs ov water
gushing out ov the sides ov the hill.
Betsy an' the balance ov the Populists
were over there a kiffin' at us. Betsy
hollered ter me an' axed me when I
thought my crowd would get a free
coinage bill through Congress. I tole
her ter go to Spain. Then she 'low'd
"why that conglomerashun you've got
over there haz helped ter kill purty
nigh a half a hundred free coinage bills
since 1873, an' now you are tryin' ter
fool sumbody ter believe that you hev
jist got captured by Chairman Butler
fer the sole purpose ov passin' a free
coinage bill. We folks over here are
not yet ready to git humbugged so
soon again." Then I awoke up an'
made an affidavit that I'd not be cap-
tured by Butler if I could help it.
Gudebye.

SOME PERTINENT QUESTIONS.
Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer.

Brethren of the Farmers' Alliance,
Trades' Union, Granges, Clubs, etc.,
wherever dispersed in this Union, give
us your ear. We wish to sound the
tocsin of Alarm and try to show you, if
we can, the dangerous condition you
are in.

All farmers and laborers of all ages,
sizes and colors that have liberty
should stop a moment and think. Con-
sider that the millionaires with their
banks, railroads, trusts, and the doc-
tors, preachers, lawyers, merchants,
whiskey dealers, snide politicians and
every class except the farmers and
laborers is thoroughly organized.

This is a well established fact and its
being so ought to prove to every man
that has sense enough to know which
cow gives the butter milk, that thor-
ough organization pays. The organi-
zed part of the Nation has the wealth,
and the scattered part of the Nation
produces it. The better and stronger
the organization, the better and more
pay the members thereof will receive
for their labor and its products. Does

"BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES" will
quickly relieve Bronchitis, Asthma,
Catarrh and Throat Diseases. Sold
only in boxes.

it not seem strange to you that the
farmers and laborers of this great
country, the men that produce all the
wealth that feeds and supports the
other half of the idling drones of our
population, and make them fabulously
rich, will not organize and stick to-
gether when they see that all they
have is shipped from them? And does
this lack of thorough organization on
the part of the wealth producers not
show that the wealth of the non pro-
ducers and idlers and the poverty of
the workers and producers is due to
thorough organization on the one hand
and the lack of it on the other?

What are the 50,000,000 American
farmers and laborers about that they
don't open their eyes to the necessity
of a thorough compact organization?
Are you going to forever consent to
have the wood and draw the water for
monopoly, and be robbed of your earn-
ings in the bargain? Are you willing
to continue to forge the links of the
chain that will bind you and your
children to the gold monopolists and
not resist when you know that for one
dollar per annum, that every farmer in
America (I mean a farmer in the true
sense of the word) can belong to the
Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union?

Are you, the great American giant,
going to lie still and let a gang of or-
ganized pirates loot and bind you hand
and foot? Unless you arise at once to
the needs of the hour the day is not
far distant when you will no longer
have the power to protect yourself.

Why, we can remember in former
days when a man thought to be an
American was greater than to be a
king. The future hope of this Repub-
lic, the hope of liberty in its broader,
nobler sense throughout the world,
lies in the hands of the men that till
the soil and work for a living. This
great mass of millions of honest, con-
servative and easy-going farmers and
laborers united in their respective
trade unions will form not only the bul-
work of our American freedom, but
they will stand for the protection of
your family and friends and give bat-
tle to their oppressors.

Under the present conditions it is
absolutely suicidal to neglect your or-
ganization. It is your duty to your
children to keep up your membership
in your respective orders: Alliances,
Granges, Knights of Labor and other
like organizations.

The battle is on. You have a per-
fect and thorough organization of mo-
nopolists on one side to fight. They
are fighting for public and private
plunder. They are led by skilled gen-
erals—skilled in the art of reaping
where they have not sown. They
commenced on you in a mild way so
that it would not show up so plainly.
They went about it in the same way
John Smith did in cutting off his dog's
tail. He said he cut off an inch at the
time so that it would not hurt the dog
like cutting it all off at once.

Your remedy is in immediate and
thorough organization of all labor
forces. Rally your neighbors—rally
one and all, on hill and through vale.
Be men, and organize to meet the at-
tacks of organized monopoly. Up and
at 'em, as you would a midnight rob-
ber. Don't surrender, but organize for
wife and child for home, native land,
and liberty. Relief can only come in
this country by one of two means:
the ballot-box or the cartridge-box.

To avoid the use of the cartridge box,
workmen, farmers and other toilers
must use the ballot box. They should
use their votes to protect and advance
their interests. Talk is cheap. Action
is what you want.

General Lee once said when a soldier
went to see him about organizing a
band that "shooters" were needed, not
"touters."

A Dutchman who conducted a bar-
room in a certain town once, in which
was a preacher that preached and
prayed every Sunday against the sale
of whiskey, watched the parson vote
at a State Election. He saw that the
parson voted just as he (the Dutch-
man) had. He slipped up and handed
him ten dollars for church purposes,
remarking as he did so, "I don't care,
parson how much you pray and preach
against my pizness jist so you votes
mit me."

We want doers—not sayers.
J. P. SOSSAMAN,
N. L. F. A. & I. U.
Charlotte, N. C.

SATISFIED.
"Maude," he said, bashfully, "I am
a silver man. I must tell you that."
"What care I for your metal?" she
cried. "As long as you are a populist
who can pop—and has popped—I am
happy."—Harper's Bazar.

NOTICE.
Rowan County Farmers Alliance
will meet with Harris Chapel Sub. on
Thursday and Friday the 14th and 15th
of April. As there will be several re-
ports from committees, a full turn out
and interesting times are expected.
Second day will be public after 10
o'clock.
R. L. BROWN, Sec'y.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A blizzard is reported in Kansas.

A new comet has been discovered by
Dr. Perrine, at Lick Observatory.
Mr. Gladstone, England's "grand
old man," is seriously ill at Hawarden.

Judson Lyons, a Georgia negro, will
probably succeed the negro Bruce, de-
ceased, as Register of the Treasury.

We omit in this summary the wild
reports regarding the Maine disaster,
the Cuban situation, etc., sent out by
conscienceless newspaper correspond-
ents.

Thirty five States have already de-
cided to participate in the Trans Mis-
sissippi Exposition. The number may
be increased to forty. We learn that
North Carolina will have no exhibit.

The funeral of the negro Register of
the Treasury, Blanche K. Bruce, ex-
slave and ex Senator, was held in Wash-
ington City last week. Bruce was one
of the greatest men his race has pro-
duced.

Dr. Geo. Powell, of La Crosse, Minn.,
has accepted the Marquis of Alta
Villa's challenge in Senator Billy Ma-
son's stead. He says he will bore the
Marquis with an army pistol—the old
forty-four.

Two hundred and fifty seven men
and two officers were killed outright in
the Maine explosion. Seven others
have since died from wounds there sus-
tained, making the total number of
dead 266.

Secretary Long, of the Navy, last
week ordered that the Amazonas, the
cruiser recently purchased from the
Brazilian Government, shall hereafter
bear the name of New Orleans. The
cruiser Abouail has been renamed the
Albany.

In writing our "War News" in last
week's issue we stated that Secretary
Long, of the U. S. Navy, said there
will be war in fifteen minutes if the
Board of Enquiry says Spain blew up
the Maine. We should have said Sec-
retary Gage, of the Treasury.

Friday's dailies announce that Tom
Watson has refused to accept the nom-
ination for Governor tendered him by
the Populists. He says he will never
enter politics again. Tom is too good
a man to dabble in the dirt of which
present day politics is composed.

Senator Chandler, of New Hamp-
shire, says that President McKinley
will soon take steps to have food,
medicine and clothing sent to Cuba's
starving people with "the approval of
Spain, if she consents, or will be car-
ried by American sailors and soldiers
without that approval, if she does not
consent."

Out in Kansas last week a safe rob-
bery occurred smacking much of Jesse
James stories. The Bank of Nickerson
was robbed. Five men required
four or five hours to blow up the safe.
Citizens who were passing the building
were held up and forced to go inside,
where they were kept until the safe
was blown open and the money secured.
About \$5,000 was obtained, whereupon
the robbers mounted horses and fled.

A flood in the Ohio river is reported.
Thursday's papers reported that the
water was rising at the rate of four
inches per hour. Most of the damage
was done in the State of Ohio.

The Scioto river wrought destruction
around Columbus, in that State, which
has passed the million dollar mark.

Three thousand are homeless at
Zanesville and many are missing and
believed to have been drowned. A
number have been drowned at other
towns, also, it has been ascertained.
The railroads alone lose \$1,000,000.

The West is still "wild and wooly"
in some portions. Two men stopped
the north bound Los Angeles, Cal., ex-
press last Tuesday on a high trestle,
blew up the express safe, and obtained
\$30,000 in treasure which had been
shipped from the Randsburg mines, as
well as considerable money from the
registered mail. The express messenger
refused to open the car. He was com-
pelled to surrender. The robbers then
blew up the safes with dynamite, com-

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with LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they
cannot reach the seat of the disease.
Catarrh is a blood or constitutional
disease, and in order to cure it you
must take internal remedies. Hall's
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quack medicine. It was prescribed by
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surfaces. The perfect combina-
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Propa, Toledo, O.
Sold by Druggists, price 75c.
Mention this paper when you write.

A Suffering Soldier.

*This veteran fought for his country; suffered un-
told hardships, and returned with health shattered.
Many a brave soldier has the same history. To day
this one rejoices in a new found strength and tells his
experience to benefit others.*

No man is better known and liked in
that rich tier of Illinois counties, of
which Peoria is the centre, than genial
Chester S. Harrington, of Prince-
ville, Ill.

Mr. Harrington is a veteran of the
late war. Like many another brave
soldier, he suffered not only during
that service, but for years afterwards
from diseases contracted then.

For years his health was shattered;
his sufferings increased. He was un-
able to gain relief, but now he tells a
story which is of profit to many:

"I served three years in the 124th Illi-
nois, enlisting at Kewanee, Ill.," said
he. "I was in Libby Prison and suffered
like many another Northern sol-
dier."

"The strain of army life did its
work in undermining my health, al-
though the collapse did not come for
some time after."

"For fifteen years I suffered from
general debility and nervousness so
badly that I could not sleep. Indiges-
tion resulted and my misery increased."

"My eyes began to fail, and as my
body lost vitality my mind seemed to
give way. I could scarcely remember
events that happened but a few weeks
before."

"For two years I was unfitted for
business. I was just able to creep
around during part of this time, and
there were many times when I could
not get up."

"My brother is a doctor, but all his
efforts to help me failed to give any
relief."

"I tried a number of remedies with-
out avail. Finally, having read arti-
cles regarding cures that had been ef-
fected by Dr. Williams' Pink Pill for
Pale People, I decided to try them."

"That was in 1896. I bought a box and
took the pill according to instructions."

"Four days later I had the happiest
hours I had known for years. That
night I went to sleep easily and slept
soundly as a child and awoke re-
freshed."

"After I had taken four boxes of the
pills, I found that I was cured and
had also increased 27 pounds in weight."

"This greatly surprised my friends,
who thought my case a hopeless one. I
began my work again and have
continued ever since in excellent
health."

"Another valuable gain to me was,
that while I was taking these pills I
had been cured of the smoking habit,
which had formed when I was a boy
and had clung to me all these years.

"The craving for tobacco left me and
I have never experienced it since."

"I cannot say enough for these pills
and have recommended them to many."

To verify this statement Mr. Har-
rington made affidavit to its truthful-
ness before Lincoln M. Coy, Notary
Public.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale
People strike at the root of disease by
acting directly upon the impure blood.
Their power is marvelous and many
wonderful cures have been made.
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medy, and all sell them.

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quantities, with a view of doing their
own compounding should address
(with stamp) at Long Leaf, Moore
County, N. C.

BRYAN TYSON.

Mention this paper when you write.

elling the fireman to touch off the
fuse. The explosion was heard for 20
miles. Passengers on the train were
not molested.

Richard Le Gallienne, the author, is
reported to be very unpopular in New
York. A correspondent of the Char-
lotte Observer says this is because he
says "sommers" for "somewhere" and
parts his coat tail when he sits down.
"The inference is irresistible that the
man who parts his coat tails before sit-
ting is a 'raid' that he will rumple them,
and it follows as the night the day that
he would not care if he did rumple
them if he had several coats with tails.
In other words, the man who parts his
coat tails as he sits down shows by that
act that he has but one coat."

W. O. Thompson, a white farmer,
was found murdered in the woods,
near Sylacanda, Ala. He had given
testimony against the illicit distillers
of his section and it is generally be-
lieved that they murdered him.

This thing of murdering postmasters
distasteful to the community and
those who inform on blockaders should
be stopped. Harper's Weekly aptly
says that the people around Lake City,
S. C., where the negro postmaster was
murdered, and around Vincennes, Ind.,
where people are hung for stealing, are
not fit to govern themselves.

BUSINESS NOTICES FOR FARMERS.

It is not yet too late to get improved
farming tools, machinery, vehicles,
etc., for 1898. In this connection we
wish to present the claims of Prof.
Benj. Irby, Raleigh, N. C., who edits
the agricultural department of this pa-
per and the Watt Plow Co., Richmond,
Va. See their ads. on page 4 and give
them your patronage. Both are thor-
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